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Trek to the city

■ Extension agents in and near large centers of population have to spend some time on the city folks. Agent C. A. Hughes of Chicago's Cook County, Ill., enumerates some of these city folks as those who own a farm somewhere else; those who have innumerable boys 13 to 18 years of age to farm out during the summer; city reporters checking on the weather and the food supply; school children writing essays on soil conservation; manufacturers of new weed killers, unusual fertilizers, and such; the "dogooder" who wants to rehabilitate Madison Street bums out on farms; and the service club and chambers of commerce chairmen who want an agricultural program.

Many of the war activities such as victory gardens have further increased the service expected and often demanded by city folks. As one agent says, the more he tries to organize these activities through group activity the more interest and demands are stimulated, until they take nearly 25 percent of his time. Agent E. C. Bird of South Bend, Ind., finds the biggest problem in the large industrial population which has moved to the country during recent years.

To help meet some of the wartime needs, special urban agents were appointed in many cities. In 1945 there were 29 urban agents in the 12 Northeastern States. Twenty-six of these were home demonstration agents. Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., have had urban home demonstration agents since World War I; and Milwaukee, Wis., and Detroit, Mich., have more recently employed home demonstration agents. Baltimore, Md., and Providence, R. I. agents began work on September 1, of this year. The Research and Marketing Act of 1946 recognizes a whole list of consumer



problems which require educational work and on which extension agents may be expected to work.

All of these things have forced some thought to city extension work. Conferences in the Northeastern States on urban home demonstration work resulted in the naming of a committee to study the situation with Frances Scudder, home demonstration leader of New York, as chairman. This committee made a progress report on June 27, 1946, discussing some of the problems involved in urban home demonstration work.

A group of agricultural agents from the Central States met at Purdue Uni-

versity, Ind., on July 10 and 11 to discuss their side of the problem. Such cities as Chicago, Ill.; Cleveland and Cincinnati, Ohio; and Milwaukee, Wis., were represented among the 18 delegates present. The conference was so helpful that the agents asked for a similar conference next year which would include also home demonstration agents, 4-H Club agents, and administrative officials. They felt it desirable that other groups of States hold such meetings so that all the experiences in this field could be available to all agents.

Basically, they said, our responsi-

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One-fourth of Nation's children get hot school lunch

■ Through the years, extension agents have encouraged and sponsored better noon-day lunches for school children.

In many communities throughout the Nation, some thousands of school youngsters still carried cold lunches when they returned to their 3 R's this fall. But their number is rapidly declining, for the hot lunch served at school is fast pushing the lunch box out of existence. At the present time the hot school lunch program reaches approximately a fourth of our school children.

Back of this tremendous achievement is the hard work of a lot of organizations and many people. School lunch work has been a part of the Extension Service program in rural areas from the very earliest days of its beginning. Pioneer home demonstration agents still talk about the box lunch demonstrations they used to give to county teachers' institutes, to home demonstration clubs, and to S. I. A.'s (later to become P. T. A.'s). They also demonstrated bread making as one way to make a cold lunch more palatable.

School lunch programs being essen-

tially community affairs, it was not long after these early efforts that community groups began to realize that at best a cold school lunch is not too good. "Why," they reasoned "cannot our groups see that our children have at least one hot dish with their cold lunch?"

And so, here and there, the fore-runners of the modern hot school lunch made their appearance. Again the home demonstration agent worked with rural teachers and other rural leaders in showing how one hot dish could contain most of the essentials of a lunch if it was properly prepared. She also helped the group to work out the kind of equipment they would need and again appeared before teachers' associations. This time she showed how to prepare and cook these hot dishes with a minimum of equipment. And that equipment was limited—often consisting of a dishpan or two, some big spoons, and the top of the heating stove.

But it worked. And gradually enterprising school teachers began to see that such a lunch made a good deal of difference to the child—both physically and mentally.

A national report of home demonstration work in 1919 showed that home demonstration agents had been instrumental in introducing the hot lunch into 2,930 schools attended by 71,688 children.

A survey of that time in Weber County, Utah, showed that children often reached school with frozen lunches or that they froze during the morning session; that children didn't take time to eat at noon and that many came with little or no breakfasts. On the petition of six districts, the board provided the equipment for serving a hot dish in these schools.

In other parts of the country, although there might be no trouble with lunches freezing, the cold lunch was not a very appetizing meal for a growing child.

As this educational movement took hold and more and more schools added a hot lunch to their program, the work of the home demonstration agent continued. But her emphasis changed. Menu planning, the preparation of foods to retain their nutritive value, and the training of leaders to prepare food for school lunches became the work most desired of the agent.

During the surplus of foods in 1935, the aid of agents generally was enlisted to show how those foods (often not in general use in all parts of the country) could be prepared so the children would like and eat them. Sometimes local groups were helped to can perishable products for use in school lunches. Typical of such work was that of Pearl Laffitte, home demonstration agent in Duval County, Fla., who, when a surplus of perishables was on hand, helped communities to organize to can these at community canning centers for school lunches.

Our Present Program

While we now have a national school lunch program, the Extension Service is still playing an important part in the school lunch program—not in administering or in actual operation but through its educational program. This program is directed first toward getting a general recognition (especially in rural areas) of the values of hot lunches. Then comes work in helping those in charge of the preparation of the food to plan meals that are well balanced and nutritionally sound. Improved ways to prepare



food to keep their food values are demonstrated. Lastly, all communities are urged to provide hot lunches.

In 1945, home demonstration clubs or other groups assisted 16,824 schools in 1,607 counties in equipping and operating school lunchrooms. Many clubs raised money to buy school lunch utensils, stoves, a refrigerator, and other equipment.

"This program grows in favor each year," says a report from Mississippi. The home demonstration club members (there are 25,000 in Mississippi), realizing the importance of good nutrition, are much interested in this school lunch program. They are instrumental in helping to keep the lunchrooms in operation.

The lunch box was discussed, ac-

cording to an Illinois report, in more home demonstration unit meetings than in any previous year for 15 or more years. In 18 counties where 96 meetings were held on the subject, attendance was 3,857 women.

Anna M. Sikes, nutrition specialist of Florida, points out: "In all our work on school lunch programs, particular emphasis has been placed on the importance of a whole day's good meals and the fact that the school lunch is only one meal during the day."

In Arkansas, home demonstration clubs sponsored 156 school lunch programs during 1945, involving 23,009 children. Agents in this State show a total of 340 school lunch programs in 56 counties, with 277,432 children being provided hot lunches. As no

funds are available for supervisors or workers in some schools there, home demonstration club members have come to the rescue.

According to a report from a Kansas extension nutritionist, 521 schools in Kansas have been assisted by home demonstration agents in establishing or maintaining school lunch programs that serve 18,928 children. "Hot school lunches are on the increase," she says, "and they are being taken as a matter of course in more and more communities."

The hot school lunch hasn't solved all the problems of all the children, but it has solved many. Teachers think there has been an improvement in the school work of the children equal to their gain physically.

National 4-H Achievement Week

■ National 4-H Achievement Week is to be observed November 1-9, 1947. The theme for all 4-H members throughout the year has been "Working together for a better home and world community." This theme will be high lighted during the observance of National 4-H Achievement Week. Achievements during 1947, according to State 4-H club leaders' estimates, include:

1. To make more food available at home and abroad, 4-H members produced and conserved food as follows:

Garden products-----	125,000 acres.
Poultry products-----	9,000,000 birds.
Livestock-----	725,000 head.
Food crops-----	425,000 acres.
Food prepared or served---	19,000,000 meals.
Products	
canned-----	36,000,000 quarts.
Food brined---	280,000 gallons.
Food dried or cured-----	3,500,000 pounds.
Food stored or frozen-----	9,000,000 pounds.

2. They guarded their own and their community's health by—
Having periodic health examinations;

Checking and improving their food and health habits;
Preparing meals in keeping with nutritional needs of the family;
Training in first aid and home nursing;
Removing farm and home accident hazards;
Improving home and community health conditions.

3. They served at home to help relieve the farm labor shortage by—
Carrying on better methods and demonstrating these methods;
Caring for and repairing farm machinery;
Increasing farm fuel supplies;
Participating in fire-prevention activities;
Repairing and remaking clothing;
Helping to conserve nature's resources.
4. They helped to interpret to the community the Nation's peace-building programs, particularly in the production and conservation of food and the sending of food and other gifts to those in distress in foreign lands.
5. They acquired a deeper appreciation of the democratic way of life by practicing democracy in home, club, and community.

6. They discussed at club meetings some of the important social and economic forces now at work and the steps to take in developing the good-neighbor spirit at home and abroad and in helping to build a better home and world community.

Balanced farming for businessmen

Businessmen, not farmers, attended the 2-day balanced-farming school held in Lawrence County, Mo., during the last part of May. Because these men deal with farm families in their business relations they felt the need for more information about this program.

This group of 20, representing such varied interests as milk companies, fertilizer companies, and banks, not only learned the principles behind the program but actually walked over a farm and worked out a balanced-farming plan for it.

One of these businessmen said later: "I feel that I have learned more in the 2 days of organized school than I normally would have in several years."

In charge of the school were C. R. Meeker, F. E. Rogers, and Associate Agent W. C. Dahms, of the University Agricultural Extension Service.

When migrant potato workers move north

■ As potato digging began in 8 eastern North Carolina counties the first week in June, farm labor specialists of the State Extension Service watched with heightened interest while a streamlined plan set up last winter to prepare for the influx of 6,000 migrant workers went into action.

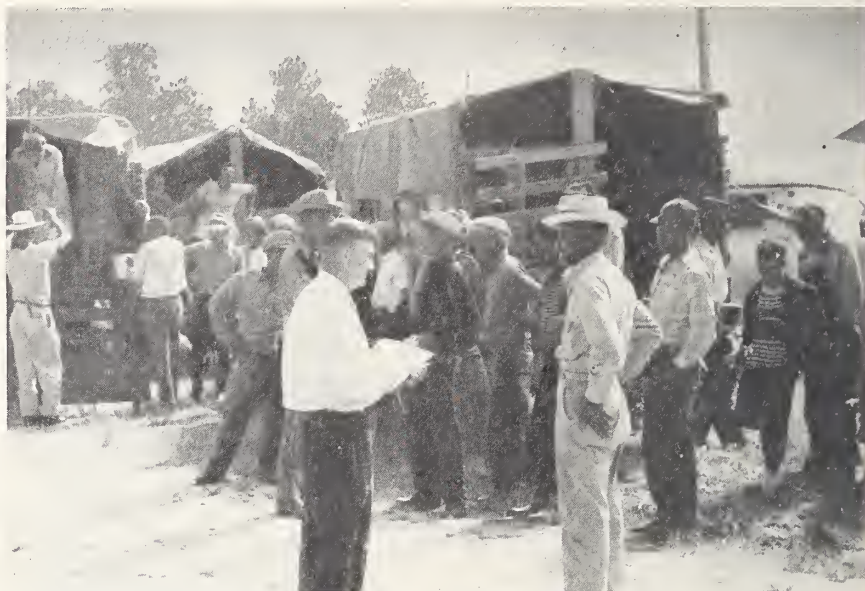
The revolutionary plan, called "selective recruiting" by its hard-working author, Fred S. Sloan, in charge of the farm labor program for the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, is designed to take the gamble out of harvesting the Seaboard Area's multimillion-dollar potato crop.

With growers relying on the agricultural migrant—a worker who follows crop maturities every season over a wide area and whose home has become a place to visit rather than to live in—to harvest as much as 90 percent of this important basic crop, the problem of using the streams of laborers to the best all-round advantage is paramount.

Realizing months in advance of 1947 digging time that North Carolina potato growers would be faced with reduced acreage on one hand and a swollen labor supply on the other, Mr. Sloan and his trained staff determined to map out a model course that would eliminate the confusion that existed last year when 9,000 migrants moved into North Carolina from the South, leaving their jobs in Florida before harvests were completed there and arriving in our State as much as 3 weeks in advance of crop maturity in numbers that far exceeded the demand and greatly accentuated an already acute labor housing shortage in the area.

The basis of the plan was knowledge of crew availability and grower need which has been a long while accumulating. The State Employment Service maintained placement men in these areas long before the war. When the State Extension Service was given responsibility for aiding these farmers during the war, it wisely entered into a contract with the Employment Service that continued this same

personnel at work with the same growers and migrants. A meticulously kept set of records makes available cardinal statistics on every leader of a migrant labor crew that has worked in the State for the past 10 years. Without this record of performance, "selective recruiting" as such would be virtually impossible; and little attempt could be made to improve on the labor situation from one year to the next.



Farm Placement Interviewer Pierce C. Brooks gets a report on the trip from Florida to North Carolina from the crew leader.

Such information as number in crew, transportation provided by the leader, area worked previously, name of the principal employer, number of days worked, type of work done, where housed, and the leader's destination when he left the State are included in the summary. It also tells how the leader was appraised by the placement men, employers, and the county agents. In fairness to the leader and his workers, this appraisal is made on the part of all three persons who most closely observe his work; and they rate both leader and workers on the basis of cooperativeness, dependability, and efficiency. An additional check is made on the supervising ability of the leader.

When these forms are filled out, bare-faced remarks are added at the bottom of the sheet that tell in plain language confidential bits about the leader and his crew. Following is a typical set of remarks, analyzed in parentheses by Mr. Sloan:

"John came in late due to not being able to finish his contract in Florida in time to reach Morehead City for the harvest." (This brief remark would influence the selecting of John and his crew for future work in this State because it shows he doesn't leave a contract until he is finished.) "He had a very nice crew of workers, and he managed them very well in the

field." (This is significant in that placement men know both John and his crew are topnotch. A good leader moving with a slow or troublesome crew would most likely not be requested by growers.) "Had good trucks. Will contract picking and hauling potatoes; or picking, hauling and grading." (This informs us that John and his crew are versatile and can handle the job all the way through to the freight car.)

Armed with such thoroughgoing and detailed knowledge of 600 migrant crews, ranging in size from 5 workers each to 300 and in desirability from excellent to "don't want 'em," Mr. Sloan and the farm placement interviewers began at the end of last sea-

son's harvest to put into their broad, new "selective recruitment" plan the fine points that would make it work or fail.

By January, typists were at work getting letters into the mail to establish contact with selected crew leaders. Under the new plan, this initial letter was in the form of a personal note from the placement interviewer; in past years, a mimeographed letter had been sent out to all leaders.

From this point to the actual arrival of the crews on the job, a "by-mail" party line was set up—with the grower, the leader, and the placement man "listening in" on the exchange of letters that made the rounds from Florida to North Carolina and back. If a leader sought a work agreement with a particular grower in a certain area, the mobile placement men helped to facilitate the contract by determining if sufficient housing would be available, if the crew was too large or too small for the grower's needs, and if—on the basis of past performance—the grower would "select" the leader and crew in question.

Growers, in turn, would seek specific crews and leaders, and the same process was employed in reverse to take the gamble out of the movement and maintain the finely balanced equation between the supply and demand of labor and housing.

Through the first 4 months of the year, the plan's cross-word-puzzle background took shape. The round-trip correspondence became heavier as growers determined their potato acreage, and as additional information filled out. Breaks in the weather in certain areas made harvest date revisions necessary, as in this letter dated April 2 to a leader at work in Florida, from C. B. Gilliam, an interviewer working out of New Bern:

"In my letter of February 20, I stated that you would be needed in Beaufort by May 20. Since that time we have had extremely cold weather in North Carolina, and no potatoes have come up yet. Harvesting will be later than expected, and I will let you know more definitely later. It looks like the harvest season will begin about June 1." Harvest in the area mentioned actually began June 2.

Putting full confidence on the information they were receiving from placement men in this State's potato

area, the leaders and their crews stayed at their jobs in Florida, mindful that they would be notified when they were needed here, and that housing would be available for them. Going one step further, at the invitation of the Florida Agricultural Extension Service, J. W. Crawford, Mr. Sloan's farm labor assistant, with Curtis Gilliam, Floyd White, and Paul Nance, all placement interviewers, met with crew leaders on the spot in Florida in May to give them a last-minute briefing on the harvest picture in North Carolina.

With this work done, it remained only for the staff to keep in constant touch with the leaders as harvest time approached and advise them of arrival

dates. When the trucks loaded with migrants began to roll across Tar Heel borders, an information station at Wilmington collected data on the number of migrants and their destination and wired ahead to advise placement men that the workers were arriving. This information was invaluable in providing housing for the crews in advance.

In Carteret and Pamlico Counties, where potatoes constitute the biggest cash crop, R. M. Williams and J. P. Stovall, county agents for those counties, were enthusiastic about the way the new plan was working.

"Just the kind of thing we needed all along," they said. "Now it's here, and we're mighty glad to see it!"

Club extends a helping hand to Norway

■ The Vetal Home Demonstration Club, of Vetal, S. Dak., under the chairmanship of Mrs. Herman Johnson, is helping friends overseas during these hard postwar times as their part toward a better world, reports Home Agent Joy A. Paine.

The club selected one family to help and has sent seven boxes to the Gundal family at Joren Street, Hadeland, Norway. The boxes contained mostly blankets and clothing — overcoats, dresses, sweaters, shoes, and underwear. They also included yarn, needles, thread, combs, pencils, a fountain pen, soap, raisins, and candy.

Correspondence with the family has added to the enjoyment of the project. Club members write in English and receive Norwegian letters. Here in part is the interpretation of the last letter received from the Gundals:

"Dear Friends: I hardly know how to begin this letter. First I received your most wonderful letter and a week later the packages with all the good things. We are so glad and thankful for your goodness to us in the poor land. The packages came to Joren Street November 20, so they took just a little over a month to arrive here. You can imagine how glad we all were about all that was in the packages. The suit for my husband fit as exactly as if it had been sewed for him. He says greetings from him and a thou-

sand thanks for your goodness. He hasn't been so fine for many years, and I am also very proud.

"We rejoiced over the packages, and thanks for the good raisins, we haven't had any here for many years. The children were so happy about them, for we shall use them in cookies for Christmas. It is winter here now and cold; but now we have good wood we cut and haul home from the timber, so we have it good and warm in the house. It has been hard with bedding as there isn't any to buy. When the war was on, warm clothing and woolen things were taken. Everything will be better when things are on schedule again. The few things there were to buy were so poor and expensive that a workingman couldn't buy them.

"Perhaps I told you in the other letter we have seven children; two are grown, the others go to school except Greta who is 4 years old and Wesle Arne who is 11 months old now. Many thanks for the good things that fit them, the blanket for him also. We can't buy that here. It makes me glad to know the little ones can sleep warm when they sleep. We are thankful to God we are all healthy; sometimes one gets a cold but that is soon over. It was good to get the fine soap, needles, thread, combs, and all. You are good people, and may God's blessing be yours. *Astrid Gundal and family.*"

The consumption pattern — basis and goal of extension programs

CLEO FITZSIMMONS, Head of Home Management Department, School of Home Economics, Purdue University

■ Better rural living or improvement of life on the farms is accepted by all extension workers as the goal toward which they work. To this end the poultry specialist attempts to improve egg production; the beef cattle specialist emphasizes good feeding practices and perhaps indicates when expansion or reduction of the numbers of animals in the feed lot is desirable; the soils men teach methods of conservation and use of land; the nutrition specialist talks about food nutrients and balanced diets; and the home furnishings people discuss balance, color harmonies, and selection and care of rugs, draperies, and furnishings. When reports are made each year, specialists and county workers desire evidence of the "betterment" which has resulted from their work.

One difficulty in the way of achieving better rural living is that each worker has his own ideas as to what constitutes improvement. Usually the agricultural workers assume that if the income of people with whom they work is increased or is as great as can be expected with the farm plant being operated, their goal has been achieved. Presumably, if people have more money or as much as they can be expected to earn with a given farming set-up, they will expend it in such a way that their living will be improved. Many studies, including that of diets at different income levels made by Dr. Hazel K. Stiebeling, chief, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, have shown that this conclusion is not entirely justified. She found that a larger amount of money spent for food meant a higher proportion of families obtaining diets judged to be good, but that even the people spending the largest amounts for food did not always have a good diet.

Home economics workers who are more directly concerned with consumption of goods by the farm family and with household production which makes many forms of consumption possible cannot be satisfied with any criterion as vaguely related to quality

or improvement in family living as increase in income. Yet many of them find it difficult to formulate any specific statement of objective criteria which will indicate "better rural living."

If extension workers are to assist in the attainment of better family living, they must know (1) what the actual physical set-up and current practices in the family may be, and (2) what is regarded as a highly desirable way of living by the families with whom they work. In addition, their own ideas must be specific enough to be stated in measurable terms. It is a truism that a program for improvement must be started at the family's level of attainment. This level should be determined each time a program is initiated. For this to be possible an objective description of the more important segments of living as practiced by members of the group is necessary.

Goals Futile Without Pattern

From an objective description, the nature of inadequacies in ways of living can be learned. From it program goals in terms of changes in commodities or practices used can be set up. If adequate income is considered the basic need there would be apparent some inadequacy of commodity or practice, correction of which would constitute improved living. Ideally, cooperators would help extension workers with the description of current ways of living and the statement of inadequacies. Above all, the futility of goals established without specific relationship to current practices of cooperating farm people should be realized.

The concept of a consumption pattern is useful in producing an objective picture of present living practices of farm families upon which programs of improvement can be based. A consumption pattern includes commodities and services in use, the ways in which they are employed, and the attitudes of individuals and families

with respect to them. It indicates the way of living considered desirable. It reveals something of significance about different types of goods used together in a way which knowledge of the use of one type only—as foods perhaps or of clothing—alone cannot do. All goods used together—or those used in greatest quantities or frequency at least—should be considered in the all-inclusive pattern.

Within this pattern, separate or specific patterns for each group of commodities can be discerned. This is made up of items belonging to that group, together with the practices and attitudes associated particularly with their use. Frequently, this specific or subpattern is considered in formulating a goal when the all-inclusive pattern might have been more suitable.

Community Pattern Develops

Individuals, families, or groups of people may have a consumption pattern. For a group or a community the pattern is made up of commodities and practices upon which there is some agreement among individuals and families. The larger the proportion of individuals or families in agreement in the use of a commodity or a practice or a combination of commodities and practices, the more important the commodity or practice becomes in the pattern. Usually an item or a practice in use followed by more than half of the cooperating families could be regarded as part of a pattern. Variations from a pattern may indicate new trends which are appearing or old patterns being relinquished.

Once a consumption pattern has been delineated, the basis for an educational program should appear. Diets may be found lacking in fresh fruits and vegetables; recreation practices of the family may reveal an absence of interest in the children's school activities; items used in household care may show lack of understanding of methods of conservation and effective use of furnishings and equipment. Many times the means for dealing with a need are related to more than the obvious need itself. Care of the dining-room table would take wood and finish into considera-

tion. It also can be related to the number of times per week the family eats upon the table, to the type of covering customarily in use at meals and between meals, to methods of food service, to uses of the table for other than meals—including frequency of such use—and to heating provisions in the household—to mention only part of the consumption pattern which might affect this piece of furniture.

Use of money to obtain commodities and services for family living involves a balancing of expenditures. If better family living as a whole is the goal, it is not practical to devote

attention to choice of food or of clothing only without reference to the goods which can be obtained or must be foregone in other consumption areas. Changes recommended in the use of one type of goods should be made in terms of their effect in all other areas of living. Here again some knowledge of the important parts of an entire consumption pattern is necessary to help a group or a family determine whether or not the new practices recommended will actually mean better living—as an overall result.

While they attempt to direct their programs “to the entire farm family”

extension workers in their respective fields must also be aware of the large number of recommendations a farm family may receive through a county extension program in the course of a year. In moments of self-examination and revelation, greater confidence and comfort may be provided by knowledge of the consumption pattern followed by a group of co-operators in a community, together with decisions reached by extension people and co-operators together as to where the pattern may be improved through an extension program and the place of the particular extension worker in the design for improvement.

Ingenuity applied to water problem

■ An artesian well recently furnished water and the necessary pressure to operate a revolving sprinkler on a farm in Wheeler County, Ga., opening up new vistas for low-cost irrigation to tobacco growers, vegetable gardeners, orchardists, and dairymen during the frequent dry spells which parch the crops and dry up the pastures.

The new device was designed by Everett H. Davis, extension irrigation engineer in the State. The tremendous water resources of Georgia, combined with the problems of frequent drought, were the reasons for the employment of an irrigation engineer to work with county agents and farmers in the use of available water to the best advantage.

Georgia has many flowing artesian wells. Some are in active use on farms, in towns or villages. Unfortunately some are on abandoned farms or near sawmills. These flow freely and waste much valuable water. Mr. Davis, a firm believer in the conservation of natural resources, wondered why some of these free-flowing wells could not be harnessed to operate revolving sprinklers of the low-pressure class without the use of auxiliary pumping equipment.

After several months of preliminary planning, well testing, and futile effort to interest commercial firms in a trial installation, the device was put

into successful operation on the Wheeler County farm. The quiet operating sprinklers sprayed water evenly over a wide strip of uneven ground along the entire length of the 200 feet of sprinkler pipe. They operated under a pressure of 4 pounds and sprayed a distance of almost 15 feet on each side of the pipe line. The installation was made possible by the loan of 500 feet of irrigation pipe by TVA.

Mr. Davis now reports that the recent development of a low-pressure sprinkler by a leading manufacturer

opens the way for expansion of irrigation in the Southeast. County Agent Jackson says many people have already observed this system in operation, and several farmers in Wheeler County are planning to make their flowing wells pay dividends.

Pointing out that farmers are letting thousands of gallons of water go to waste daily, which might be used to irrigate the crops, Mr. Davis urges that wells be equipped with shut-off valves which cut down the flow of water substantially to keep up the artesian water levels. The Georgia State Division of Conservation reports that the levels are now being lowered. If only 50 percent of the quantity of water which is wasted daily could be utilized, more than 2,100 acres of cropland could be irrigated.



Agents use toy furniture

MRS. LOUISE S. JESSEN, Extension Editor, University of Hawaii

■ "No, you don't need to take me to a psychiatrist or to the mental health clinic. There's nothing the matter with me, and I haven't reverted to childhood."

This is what a Honolulu woman said to her husband one evening recently when he came home and found her sitting on the floor apparently playing with a toy house and toy furniture. She was just trying out a new arrangement for the living room, an arrangement suggested by the extension home agent at a club meeting.

Mrs. Alice P. Trimble, home demonstration leader for the University of Hawaii Agricultural Extension Service, and the Oahu home agents who work with these clubs are using toy houses and toy furniture to demonstrate the fundamentals of good room arrangement and home decoration.

"This is just a part of what we call a unit of work in home improvement," Mrs. Trimble says, "and how the club members do love it!"

The entire unit includes furniture arrangement, use of color in the home, lighting, choice and use of accessories and pictures, types of curtains and how to make them, and short cuts in cleaning.

Each club member began by drawing a plan of her living room as it is now. She drew it to scale and indicated the location of each piece of furniture. She brought the plan to her club meeting and discussed ways of improving the arrangement with the other members and the home agent.

One elderly Japanese homemaker added a personal touch to her plan by drawing a picture of herself standing in the middle of the room looking around to see what could be done about it. She had written in the names of the different pieces of furniture in Japanese characters because she didn't know how to write the English words. Even the aquarium and the individual fishes were included.

Each home agent has a set of toy furniture. It consists of well-made, attractive little wooden tables, chairs, davenport, radios, even lamps and footstools. They would delight the heart of any little girl. And there are real cloth draperies and tiny cushions. The home agent stands before the group, moves the pieces about, and waits for comments.

"Oh, that way makes the room look awful small," the women say, or "It

seems terribly cluttered up that way."

When they've seen the many different ways the same pieces of furniture can be placed, they divide up in groups. The agent gives each group a floor plan and pieces of cardboard cut to represent furniture. The group works out an arrangement and compares it with that made by each of the other groups. Then the good and bad points of each are discussed.

Home demonstration agents on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, use toy furniture to demonstrate living-room arrangement.

A 4-H train in Louisiana

A unique sort of train left Baton Rouge, La., on April 1 for a tour of towns and cities along the Illinois Central tracks in Louisiana. It was the Louisiana 4-H Club train—four carloads of exhibits, a sort of traveling exposition of 4-H work in Louisiana. The green and white ribbons were officially cut by Louisiana's 1946 national health winner, Mary Lou Jacocks, and the tour of inspection got under way.

Three cars were devoted to exhibits of all phases of the work undertaken by boys and girls in the 4-H Clubs. Included in these exhibits were the winning entries in the annual Louisiana State University Junior Livestock Show. The fourth car was fitted out for the showing of motion pictures on agriculture and the 4-H Clubs.

Four club members were among the official representatives who made the tour. Not all of Louisiana's 57,000 club members visited the train, but a large majority of them did. Chartering school and commercial busses, the 4-H'ers went to the nearest town where the train was to stop. Depots were decorated with green and white pennants, four-leaf clovers, and bunting; and large delegations of enthusiastic youngsters gave royal welcome to the first 4-H Club train as it rolled into the towns. Ministers, school teachers, town officials, representatives from allied agricultural agencies all mingled with the crowds that inspected the unique train. Many of the towns carried window displays to help notify the people about this important juvenile educational exhibit.

Left to right: Esther O. Opland, Viola E. Woodruff, Lillian Schwartz, Lillian Don, and Eleanor B. Dickie.



Group pictures can tell a story

Fifth in a series of practical tips for taking extension pictures, by George W. Ackerman, chief photographer, Extension Service, U. S. D. A.

■ The meeting, the discussion group, the home demonstration club, or a similar group of people is one of the common picture problems of a county agent. Such a picture can be a head-on, double or triple row of faces which only the family will appreciate, or it can also tell a story.

The picture will take on meaning if the reason for the get-together is shown. Sometimes simple properties are available. I attended a meeting of New Hampshire young farmers. The candid shot showed blank faces and little else. The subject of the meeting was a report on new corn varieties by a man from the experiment station. After the meeting, it took just a little time to pose a picture with the speaker down near the group with an ear of corn in his hand. Some of the sample ears he had brought were passed out to the boys on the front row. With something to handle they were less self-conscious; the boys in the back perked up with an interested look, and the picture was much improved.

Sometimes the subject of the meeting or discussion can be written on a blackboard. Use a 1-inch length of chalk, and write with the side, making big, broad letters. Keep the words to a minimum—just enough to indicate the subject under discussion. To do this and still get the faces of a public problems discussion at a home demonstration meeting in Vermont, I had the agent stand at the board and a woman on the extreme left speak. All of the other women and the agent looked at the speaker. This showed the faces well and gave a feeling of unity to the picture.

A small group around a table makes a good picture. Have something on the table to indicate the purpose of the meeting. A secretary's book looks like a business meeting, and a show of hands indicates a vote is being taken. A work meeting either may have everyone busy with some phase of the work; or one person can demonstrate, and all others can watch. Charts, models, animals, houses, farm

and home equipment of all sorts can help to tell the story.

Standing on a chair or stool will often give enough elevation to see every face clearly rather than just the front row. This will also enable the camera to get a clear view of what is on the table or being demonstrated.

The secret of successful group pictures is careful planning. A helper



who knows just what is to be done can be invaluable in moving folks around quickly. Have your properties ready, and explain to the group what you want to do. After they are posed about right, all faces are visible, and the properties are in use, I have them go ahead with the action. Let the

demonstrator demonstrate, the chairman put the motion, the group sing a song. This relieves the tension, takes their minds off the picture, and gives a natural photograph with some life to the expressions of the group and some meaning to their coming together.

■ Keeping pace with advances in nutrition knowledge, the United States Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics has prepared an up-to-date series of 10 nutrition charts as a visual teaching aid.

Photographs of laboratory animals point up the importance of well-balanced diet for normal development and growth. Eight of the better-known nutrients essential for growth are thus illustrated.

The new, modernized charts, which are 19 by 24 inches and printed in yellow and black on heavy white paper, replace an out-of-print black-and-white edition which became a long-time best seller among the Bureau's educational charts. One set has been sent to each State Nutrition Specialist.

Sold in complete sets only, at 75 cents a set, the nutrition charts may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Agents tackle housing problem

■ New York's Extension Service has completed three series of meetings on rural housing, and throughout the State genuine enthusiasm has been registered by the county agricultural, home demonstration, and 4-H agents about the part they can take in this phase of bettering farm life.

Labeled the "Number 1 Extension Job" of the year by Director L. R. Simons, the 15 regional meetings from February to July attracted as many as 225 agents per series.

Many were skeptical and lukewarm about what they could do. "Do we just sit and wait or do we do something?" was the attitude of some; but once the meeting got under way, interest was high, and the agents were full of suggestions.

The general plan of the 2-day meetings was to present the facts and to help the agents equip themselves with enough information to help rural families carry out the construction and repair programs they want to undertake. In the first series, three Cornell specialists and the Director of Extension presented the facts on aims and obligations in rural housing, building materials, methods of reducing housing costs, farmhouse design and remodeling, and ways to analyze

present structures in relation to family needs.

Director Simons set the stage by outlining the aims and obligations of Extension in rural housing. He said farm homes and buildings are due for some extensive face lifting in the next few years that will bring about not only greater efficiency but also more attractive homesteads and better living conditions generally.

He pointed out that more than a third of the farm dwellings are more than 86 years old, 95 percent are of frame construction, about 70 percent have electricity, 44 percent running water, 30 percent a bathtub or shower, and similar facts based on the 1940 census. This indicated somewhat the nature of the job ahead.

Who Will Ask for Most Help?

Most requests for assistance in housing problems will probably come from farm families with a gross annual income between \$1,000 and \$4,000, Simons said. Others will likely turn to sources of professional help.

Machinery to help bring about housing improvements has a legislative basis in the Research and Marketing Act of 1946, and the director explained how the experiment stations and ex-

tension services could operate in furthering the work when funds become available.

Ruby Loper, extension rural architect, who "carried the ball" in program arrangements, discussed farmhouse design and how it differed from city homes. Two hypothetical designs were submitted and studied.

In remodeling, the emphasis was on conservative expenditures of time, labor, and money. The thing to do, said Miss Loper, was to visualize what you can get out of the present structure. Presented were three actual remodeling jobs, with charts, as a teaching aid for the group to help families plan needs and wants. "The time to do this is before the carpenter starts his work," she said.

Building materials came in for attention, as Prof. A. M. Goodman cited prospects for more plentiful supplies, but prices are uncertain. A number of relatively new building supplies are on the market and are valuable if used for the purpose intended. Cited among these were cinder block, plaster board, various insulating boards, and the like.

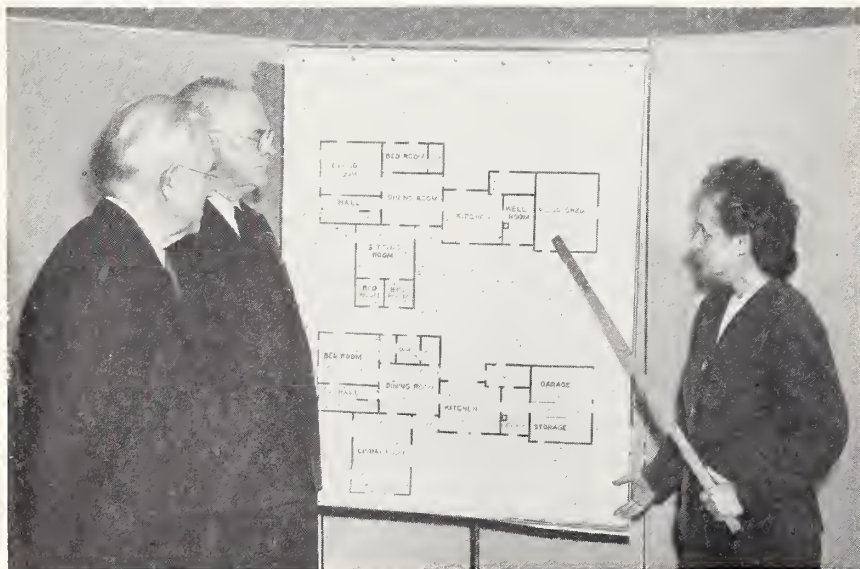
Professor Goodman spoke of the importance of good foundations and good drainage. He also discussed chimneys, how most farm fires originate there, and why a good chimney is a good insurance policy.

Prof. C. A. Bratton touched on the economic side of housing developments, urging folks not to go too heavily into debt. "You should have an equity of at least 50 percent in times like these," he pointed out.

The meetings featured demonstration, discussion, and workshop, with agents actually doing jobs they may have to do with others. At a roundtable session, they discussed publications they would like to have. Small leaflets were recommended so that eventually all could be assembled in one handbook on rural housing. Cornell is already planning bulletins on bathrooms and chimneys.

One of the questions has been how 4-H Clubs could fit into the general housing program; and it was agreed, as a result of the meetings, that club members can do a great deal with demonstrations and exhibits featuring home improvement and beautification and "better methods" programs. Older rural youth in particu-

Studying the remodeling plans for a farm home are Prof. A. M. Goodman, agricultural engineer; Extension Director L. R. Simons; and Ruby Loper, extension rural architect. (Photo by John F. Brock.)



lar have a stake in housing and should be encouraged and helped to participate.

With commercial firms also interested, some persons have felt concern about the chance of making the housing program a truly extension one. In New York, the plan is one of cooperation. "We have found," said Miss Loper, "that lumber and cement dealers and others in the commercial field are anxious to work along with us. This cooperation proves mutually beneficial."

The housing program proceeded with the second series in April when water and sewage disposal systems were discussed by Prof. Paul Hoff; correct use of concrete by an engineer of the Portland Cement Association; and selection and arrangement of bathroom fixtures and farmhouse remodeling were taken up by Miss Loper.

The third series in June featured kitchen planning by Ruth Remsberg, furniture arrangement by Mrs. Ruth Comstock, the subject of painting and more work on remodeling by Miss

Loper, and paint mixing and use of color for various rooms by Charlotte Robinson.

In October, the subjects of heating, ventilation, insulation, and more work on furniture arrangement and remodeling were featured.

The housing program is one that has successfully cut across college and departmental lines, and cooperation has been excellent.

A new home study course on concrete making is also being offered by Cornell.



Have you read

THE LAND AND WILDLIFE. Edward H. Graham. 232 pp. 32 plates. Oxford University Press, New York, N. Y. 1947.

■ The author, as a biologist, recognizes that wildlife is dependent upon its environment. It depends mainly on the condition of the land and what the land produces. He points out that people have changed the condition of the land, thereby bringing about changes in kinds and numbers of wildlife. He holds that the same treatments of land which accomplish good land use are most practical in wildlife management.

Practices involved in good land use, principally on agricultural land, are described. The discussion of each drives home the point that people and wildlife can live together to their mutual advantages; but some of the rules and beliefs about wildlife management will need to be changed. Some of the wildlife management problems that loom big today Mr. Graham believes, will disappear almost completely with certain treatments of the land.

There is a note of challenge to the people on the land to become conservationists, a challenge to all of us to live within our natural - resource means. The case made by this biologist-soil conservationist for wildlife management through good land use should appeal to all who are interested

in keeping up to date with information in this field.—*W. R. Tascher, Extension-SCS Conservationist.*

THE LAZY GARDENER. William C. Pryor. 226 pp. Longmans, Green & Co., Inc. New York. 1947.

■ "No one can be really lazy and also be a good gardener . . . but it is possible to avoid making yourself a slave to the hoe and the hose." The Lazy Gardener points out some of the short cuts and time savers in gardening—Use your brains, save your muscle and money—careful preparation is three-fourths of the fight—mulch your tomatoes and save hoeing—plant perennials to save work—leave the gladiolus corms in the ground all winter.

The book is aimed at the amateur suburbanite east of the Mississippi, with emphasis on flower growing. There are chapters on—why bother with a garden, gardening in bed, labor-saving flowers, vegetables, pests, herbs, and wild garden. The principles of good gardening as regards soil, organic matter, fertility, soil conservation, mulching, transplanting, pruning, and numerous similar considerations and operations are brought out in entertaining style. His discussion of how to use herbs in foods and beverages literally makes one's mouth water. Scattered throughout the book are notes and suggestions for

each month. At the end are several useful tables—environmental requirements of flowers, shrubs, and vines; sure-fire annuals; most satisfying perennials; vegetable planting chart; plants for the wild garden; and when to plant flowers.

The subject of insect and disease control might be covered more thoroughly."

The Lazy Gardener makes interesting reading. While following the author's experiences one absorbs some reliable, practical horticultural wisdom.—*Dr. R. J. Haskell, extension plant pathologist and acting horticulturist, Federal Extension Service.*

"Food and Home Notes" again sent to agents

County home demonstration agents are again able to get the Department of Agriculture's weekly mimeographed "Food and Home Notes" under a plan worked out by the Federal Extension Service.

About a year ago the practice of sending these weekly homemaking notes to agents was discontinued because of lack of funds to pay for the copies and mailing. A number of agents protested because they had been depending on this material for use in radio programs, news stories, and other outlets.

Although its budget is tight again this year, the Federal Extension Service decided that every effort should be made to provide this service to home demonstration agents. So economies were planned elsewhere, and weekly bulk mailings of "Food and Home Notes" have been offered to State extension offices for remailing to the counties.



Flashes

FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Agricultural Engineers Work to Save Soft Corn

■ Because of the lateness of the planting season in the Corn Belt this year, it was evident early in the summer that at harvesttime there would be a serious problem of soft or high-moisture corn. It was estimated that 25 percent of the crop might need special conditioning to prevent spoilage. A shortage of feed would cut down the supply of livestock products, needed this year as almost never before. To help farmers save their corn, engineers of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, in cooperation with the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, State agricultural experiment stations, and other agencies, have carried on intensive research to determine the best ways to condition soft corn. Their recommendations were issued from a corn conditioning conference held in Chicago July 21.

These recommendations call for the use of fans and heat for drying the corn. Mechanical ventilation without heat can be used for corn with a moisture content below 28 percent under favorable conditions of air temperature and humidity, but for corn containing a higher percentage of moisture heat is usually necessary. Where hay-drying equipment is available, it can be used to advantage in drying ear corn.

Owing to the urgency of the soft-corn problem this year, engineers, extension people, and equipment men are holding a series of meetings to further improve practices and to find ways to spread the information. The recommendations of the Chicago conference have been mimeographed and are available from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA 1694-47). County agents in the Corn Belt are ready to lend a

hand to farmers needing advice. Basic recommendations are given in Farmers' Bulletin 1976, Handling and Storing Soft Corn.

Science Cuts Processing Times for Home-Canned Foods

■ Processing periods 25 to 50 percent shorter than previously recommended have been shown to be safe for a number of low-acid vegetables. This means better flavor, texture, and vitamin value of the canned foods and a saving of time and fuel at the same time.

Three years of research in Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics laboratories established the optimum conditions for canning 12 low-acid vegetables, all of which require the use of a pressure canner. The scientists put up more than 4,000 jars and cans of food by home rather than industry methods. Temperatures inside the containers were recorded by sealed-in instruments. In determining the minimum length of time under pressure that could be safely recommended, a margin of safety was allowed for variations that may occur in kitchen canning.

It was found that vegetables in pint jars and some vegetables in quart jars could be processed for shorter times than previously recommended. The research showed a need, however, to lengthen processing time for asparagus, lima beans, beets, and whole-grain corn in quart jars. Quart packs take longer to heat to the necessary temperature for sterilization.

The new canning times may be found in a new, revised edition of "Home Canning of Fruits and Vegetables," AIS-64. This leaflet contains illustrated step-by-step instructions for canning fruits and vegetables. There are also two pages of questions and answers on canning problems.

Detecting Inadequate Pasteurization of Dairy Products

■ If 1 pound of milk in 2,000 or 1 pound of cream in 5,000 has not been pasteurized, a new test developed in the Bureau of Dairy Industry can detect it. The test was originally perfected by scientists of the Bureau in 1945-46 for use on Cheddar cheese and has since been improved for application to practically all milk products. It is known as the Sanders and Sager phosphatase test. By its use, a variation of 1° F. below the standard pasteurizing temperature can be detected.

All normal raw milk contains a phosphatase enzyme which is destroyed at temperatures a few degrees higher than that required to destroy the most resistant disease-producing organisms that may occur in milk. The presence of this enzyme indicates that some of the milk has not been heated to the required temperature—in other words, has not been pasteurized.

During the war a number of outbreaks of disease were traced to uncured raw-milk cheese. Brucellosis, or undulant fever, is one dangerous disease that can be spread through contaminated milk-containing foods. The new test makes it possible for cheese manufacturers, public health officials, and Federal agencies to cooperate in setting up regulatory standards for milk products. The adoption of such standards is now under consideration by regulatory agencies.

The products to which the test has been applied successfully include fluid milk; cream; Cheddar, Swiss, and other hard cheeses; process cheese and cheese spreads; cottage cheese and other soft, unripened cheeses; butter; buttermilk; ice-cream mix and sherbet; and fermented milk drinks and chocolate milk.

■ Officers of the Mississippi Home Demonstration Agents Association for the coming year are: Earle Gaddis, Indianola, president; Ruth Ethridge, Greenville, first vice president; Katherine Staley, Meridian, second vice president; Lucille Stennis, Decatur, secretary; Mamie Brock, Carthage, treasurer.

We Study Our Job

New England States make reports on cooperative study

■ When the Extension Editor Advisory Committee met in Washington, members voiced the need (1) for more evaluation of extension methods, particularly information studies on radio and publications, and (2) for States to work together in making and reporting extension studies.

New England States have already made progress in cooperative extension studies. With united action they set out to solve the old problem: Why so many boys and girls from 12-14 years drop out of 4-H Club work. State 4-H Club leaders and club agents together with Federal extension staff members made a survey of 642 young people, parents, and local 4-H Club leaders in 6 counties of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont to find the answer.

Double-barreled Reporting

Perhaps no study has ever had more interesting reporting. Two different "New England Cooperative Publications" were prepared by the survey committee of State and Federal extension staff members and duplicated by the Massachusetts Extension Service. The two publications give information on the study from two different slants for two different audiences.

First, a complete summary of the study, entitled "4-H Club Work and High School Youth," has been mimeographed. A limited supply is available for persons interested in detailed methods, procedures, and results, information on the people surveyed, what was found out about them, and what can be done about it.

Second, a popular version, entitled "Keeping High School Youth in 4-H Clubs," Special 4-H Circular No. 9, has been printed to be used as a training and discussion guide for local leaders' meetings. In preparing this bulletin, the committee sifted out the most important findings of the study, and pointed them up very clearly, to

help readers make practical application of the information.

Here are some of the findings highlighted in this readable bulletin: "Boys and girls, starting high school, stay longer in 4-H Clubs that: Have at least one adult and one junior leader; have assistance of a sponsoring committee; meet at least once a month; have 10 to 14 members; devote 50 percent of meeting time to project instruction; offer more than one project a year; meet in the homes of members; hold meetings lasting 1 to 2 hours; do not meet on Saturdays or Sundays; have been established 4 years or more.

More Reasons for Long Membership

"Boys and Girls, starting high school, stay in 4-H Clubs if they have this background: Enrolled at an early age; carried only one project the first year; carried more projects after the first year; started in projects like dairy, livestock, clothing; joined to learn about farming and homemaking; were visited by leader during first year; parents were interested in 4-H; took part in varied activities; served as officers and committeemen; were active in first year of membership.

"Boys and Girls, starting high school, stay in 4-H Clubs with leaders who: Are farmers or homemakers; attend leader-training meetings; were 4-H members themselves; have the cooperation of parents; plan programs with the members; have been leaders 3 years or longer; visit the projects of first-year members; provide opportunities for judging and exhibits; encourage attendance at county club camp."

The committee points out that these statements are correct as they apply to the six counties in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont, where the study was made in 1946. Only limited generalizations should be made, however, for other areas, and for youth of other ages than the 12- to 14-year-olds studied.

A limited number of these cooperative publications may be available from Massachusetts State Club

Leader, Horace M. Jones, who piloted the study.

Extension workers go to school

■ Cannon Hearne reports that more than 400 extension workers from 31 States and Canada attended this year's 9 extension summer schools. Regional schools were held at Colorado State College and Cornell University by action of the directors in the West and Northeast. Other summer sessions were given for extension workers at University of Missouri, Mississippi State College, University of Florida, Utah State College, Oregon State College, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, and Teachers College, Columbia University.

Basic courses in Extension Education were offered at each institution. A course in Extension Evaluation was given at Cornell, Missouri, and Colorado. The content of this course was the same at each institution but was handled by different instructors at each institution.

The program of courses was varied, school by school, to fit the needs of the mass of extension workers. Graduate credit was available for those students interested in advanced degrees. Three extension people finished their work for the Master's Degree in Extension at the University of Missouri. Others are working for their degrees at Cornell and Teachers College.

Instructors came from local institutions, the Federal Extension Service, and State Extension Services. All instructors were enthusiastic about the interest shown by students and institutions.

The schools varied in length from 3 to 4 weeks at Missouri, 5 in Mississippi, and 6 in Oregon and Teachers College. The attendance record seems to indicate that the 3-weeks' courses are most popular. Individuals working for graduate credit and degrees seem to prefer the longer periods.

Next issue of REVIEW will announce the 1948 short-time schools for extension workers. This will enable you to make early plans to attend.

Do you know

the agent in Steuben County, N. Y.—hero of Bill Stempfle Day—and the home demonstration agent in Caddo Parish, La., heroine of the “Orchids to You” radio broadcast?

■ June 14, was a big day in Steuben County, N. Y. Local, civic, and business organizations and agricultural groups set aside the day to review a quarter of a century of agricultural progress in the county and to honor William S. Stempfle, who had served the county for 25 years as agricultural agent. The county board of supervisors in a proclamation called it “Bill Stempfle Day.”



An all-day rain didn't interfere with the celebration, as several thousand county residents and visitors from all over the State turned out at the Bath fairgrounds. More than 20 floats and 14 Steuben County bands appeared in the mile-long parade, which depicted 25 years of agriculture in the county. County agents from western New York also marched in the parade.

Guests introduced to the crowd included New York's Lieutenant Governor, Joseph Hanley; Chester DuMond, commissioner of the State Department of Agriculture and Markets; Warren Hawley, president of the State Farm Bureau Federation; and Charles Messer, president of the State County Agents' Association. Many others, including officials from the College of Agriculture, paid tribute to Mr. Stempfle.

After an address by the Honorable Orlo M. Bress, assemblyman from Broome County, on the Challenge to Leadership, a book containing testimonials was presented to Mr. Stempfle from his friends and associates throughout Steuben County.

Visitors to the anniversary celebra-

tion noted that the picture in Steuben County had changed in 25 years from one of abandoned farms to one of a prosperous agriculture. And Mr. Stempfle had an important part in the change. He was largely responsible for building an outstanding potato-producing area from former waste land (as described in the Extension Service Review, February 1946).

Mr. Stempfle's county-wide tuberculosis eradication program for dairymen in 1922 made the county the first in the Nation to be TB accredited. To help dairymen when milk prices were low, he initiated the development of a substantial business of raising surplus cattle for sale to other areas. Marketing tours he arranged to New York and Buffalo for fruit and vegetable growers have helped to establish sound marketing practices in this and other fields.

With 25 years of service in Steuben County behind him, Bill Stempfle is already making plans for the acceleration of the county's agricultural development. An increase in dairy records, reforestation, erosion control, more potato storage, eradication of potato diseases, and recreation for farmers are included in his plans for the future.

■ MATTIE MAE ENGLISH has the title of home demonstration agent in Caddo Parish, La., but she's really an institution!

Her achievements are monumental, her influence incalculable, and Louisianians who know her were not a bit

surprised when her fine work was accorded recognition on an “Orchids to You” radio program sponsored by a Shreveport florist.

Go up and down the highways; stop at the forks of the road; attend a meeting of a literary club; listen to a chorus; and you'll find Mattie Mae there! Mixing with many groups, she has a great capacity for getting along.

A bouquet of words accompanied the orchid for the home demonstration agent, who is as much a fixture in Caddo Parish as its leading cultural and educational institutions. They said:

“Today, ‘Orchids to You’ is honoring a lady who has dedicated a large part of her life to training the people of our parish to become better citizens. The early part of this lady's career was spent as a school teacher, both in small communities near Shreveport and in Shreveport itself. She eventually occupied the principal's chair in Colfax High School. After 3 years there she accepted her present position as home demonstration agent for Caddo Parish in the year 1924.

“In her own words, this lady explains her change of work, ‘because I felt that I could reach more people and help more homes in rural areas.’ She has done just that. She has taught and contacted approximately 10,000 boys and girls. Her home demonstration clubs now total 1,100 women as members. During her 23 years as an Extension Service worker, she has helped three white boys, three white girls, and two Negro girls attend college. She has brought encouragement for finer living and a real appreciation of our Nation to more than 15,000 homes in Caddo Parish.

“So, ‘Orchids to You,’ Miss English, for your fine work and untiring efforts to make our part of the Nation a better place in which to live and our people better informed and trained to live in it.”—*Marjorie B. Arbour, extension editor, Louisiana.*

■ MARY ROBINSON has recently been appointed home demonstration agent in southeastern Alaska. Her headquarters are at St. Petersburg at the Alaska Fur Experiment Station. She graduated in home economics at the Michigan State College in June.



An exhibit to stop the crowd

■ You don't need a purple cow to make people stop, look and talk! With the maze of color, design, and confusion at fairs it takes something to make a crowd tarry for an instant.

How to apply the principles of design and display in booths was the subject discussed at a school held in Washington County, Oreg., last spring.

Requests for such a school were made by farmers' organizations, business firms, and home extension units to members of the county fair board. These groups expressed an interest in improving exhibits at fairs and festivals and asked that the Extension Service help with the instruction.

Curtis W. Reid, specialist in visual education, Oregon State College, reproduced pictures on a screen, by use of an opaque projector, of booths and displays from the Oregon State Fair,

Pacific International Livestock Exposition, and The Washington County Fair. Good and bad features of the exhibits were pointed out by Lincoln Wheeler, manager of the Land Products Show at the Pacific International, with the audience participating. Mr. Wheeler emphasized that a county fair booth should indicate that the designers had fun in making it, and should radiate an atmosphere of friendliness.

A focal point of interest, use of color, light, and background materials was discussed by E. H. Lane, a commercial designer. He stressed simplicity as one of the first principles in making an attractive booth display.

Washington County booth designers look forward to stopping throngs of people at fairs this fall by using principles of good design illustrated at the booth school.

Trek to the city

(Continued from page 129)

bility to urban people is to offer useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics to both adults and youth.

In developing and carrying on a program with urban and suburban people, they were concerned with those things which contribute to the welfare and advancement of agriculture and the economic aspects of home life. They wanted to improve health through better nutrition and wiser consumption habits.

They acknowledged that rural-urban relationships were becoming increasingly important and offered opportunities for service to rural people, but they felt the need for more research on rural-urban problems.

These agents proposed to service these new groups if and when added personnel and funds were available by first using existing organizations. Individual service such as identification and control of insects and diseases of flowers, vegetables, and shrubbery should be done largely by telephone and office calls.

Consumer education should concern itself with when to buy, what to buy, and how to utilize purchases to the

best advantage. In doing this, an organization of commission and produce firms and growers might be called together, organized, and asked to report daily on the supply, quality, and budget rating of the produce available. Extension Service would summarize and give information to local newspapers, especially the women's pages, and radio stations, particularly broadcasts beamed at women listeners.

The problems which refer specifically to suburban residents and whose solution lies outside the Extension Service could be approached by procedures similar to the land use studies when local people organize to study their problems. The Extension Service can put them in touch with those who can help when they have decided definitely what the problems are.

■ When Dr. E. G. Kelly, extension entomologist at Kansas State College, started his cattle grub control program this year he enlisted the help of various group representatives in an hour-long "kick-off" broadcast over the Kansas State College radio station, KSAC.



■ G. L. HERRINGTON, Tennessee 4-H Club leader since 1920, died at a district 4-H Club camp, July 31. His death resulted from a heart attack during the night following an active day in directing the making of scenes for a motion picture on 4-H Club work at the camp.

Mr. Herrington was a pioneer in extension work in Tennessee, starting as county agent in Gibson County in 1913. In 1914 he was club agent in Shelby County, going from there to Sumter County, Fla., where he was county agent for a year. From 1916 to 1919 he was 4-H Club leader in Florida, returning to Tennessee in 1920.

He was a native of Neshoba County, Miss., where he was born November 17, 1887, and a graduate of Mississippi State College of Agriculture, class of 1912.

No man in Tennessee was more loved and admired by rural youth and their parents than he because of his capable leadership and the spirit of sincerity, devotion, and high ideals which he instilled into the lives of the many thousands of boys and girls with whom he came in contact during his 27 years as club leader.

In recognition of his devotion and service to rural youth of Tennessee the first Volunteer State Award, the highest State honor conferred by the university and the Extension Service on 4-H Club members and friends of the work, was made posthumously to him at the Annual State 4-H Short Course at the University of Tennessee.

Among Ourselves

■ **DR. LELLA GADDIS**, State leader of home demonstration agents and in charge of home economics extension work for Purdue University since this work was started some 30 years ago, retired from the staff June 30 and became professor emeritus of home economics extension. She will be succeeded by Eva L. Goble, a former home demonstration agent, and during the last 4 years, home management specialist.

Dr. Gaddis, who is one of the most widely known and highly esteemed women in the State because of her years of activity in the educational programs for rural women, has pioneered in many projects for improvement of farm life. She was born on a farm near Rossville but grew up in this community, taught in local schools, studied home economics at Purdue, and taught in the first summer school for vocational home economics teachers in 1914 at the university. She then joined the home economics extension staff and, on September 1, 1914, was placed in charge of the emergency home demonstration work in the State to help Hoosiers in the wartime food preservation program inaugurated as an aid to victory in World War I.

Under her guidance the extension program has grown until there are home agents in 56 counties and an extension program of value to the 50,000 members of the Indiana home economics clubs.

Miss Goble was born and reared at Jasonville and holds a bachelor of science degree, obtained in 1941, from Indiana State Teachers College at Terre Haute. She obtained a master of science degree in home economics from Purdue last spring. Her experience includes 7 years of teaching at Jasonville and Brazil schools, 1 year on the staff at Indiana State Teachers College as head of the college's home economics student cooperative house, 2 years as home demonstration agent of Vigo County, and 4 years as extension home-management specialist. While on the Purdue staff, she

has carried on an extensive research project in work simplification, making a special study of how to relieve the housewife of the ever-present task of dishwashing. Her work in this field has attracted wide attention.

■ Two familiar bylines have been recently "retired" from news releases of the New Jersey Extension Service. They are those of Mrs. Marion F. McDowell, extension specialist in family relations, and Amzi C. McLean, Mercer County agricultural agent.

Followers of Mrs. McDowell's column, "Family Life Today," which has appeared in New Jersey newspapers for many years, will be glad to hear that she hopes to continue her writing.

"Adventures of the Aging"—emphasis on the "ing" and not "ed," Mrs. McDowell says—is a title which tempts her pen. With the science of happy living her hobby as well as her profession, Mrs. McDowell intends to take a seminar course on "Aging Successfully" at Town Hall in New York during the winter. The course will be conducted by Dr. George Lawton, consulting psychologist.

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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Prepared in the
Division of Extension Information
Lester A. Schlup, *Chief*

CLARA BAILEY ACKERMAN, *Editor*
DOROTHY L. BIGELOW, *Associate Editor*
GERTRUDE L. POWER, *Art Editor*

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Also on her schedule is a winter trip to the British West Indies and lots of gardening at the McDowell home near Red Bank.

Amzi McLean is going from hobby to professional gardening upon his retirement. He will operate a nursery in Townsend, Va.

Interested in gardening for more than 50 years, Mr. McLean has written the weekly newspaper column, "Your Garden This Week," for well over a decade. In giving his advice to home gardeners, he has drawn upon his experience in his own quarter-acre garden in Pennington.

A native of Colts Neck, N. J., McLean spent part of his youth in Kansas and is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin. After 17 years as a farmer, he became a county agent and has served Mercer County in that capacity for 26 years.

■ **HAROLD B. TAYLOR**, who was named State director of agricultural vocational work some time ago, has also been named Indiana State leader of 4-H Club work. Mr. Taylor succeeds the late Harry F. Ainsworth who died suddenly in Indianapolis several months ago of a heart attack.

Under the arrangement combining the two positions, Mr. Taylor will divide his time between the Purdue campus and the State Department of Public Instruction in Indianapolis. The combined position means closer coordination of the agricultural program including supervision of 4-H and vocational work in Indiana than if the two main lines of work were handled separately.

Mr. Taylor, a native of Montgomery County and a graduate of Waveland High School, is a 1933 agricultural graduate of Purdue. After obtaining a master's degree from Purdue he spent 2 years at Michigan State College in research work in the field of farm management.

He was named acting director of vocational education upon Mr. Ainsworth's passing, and was recently appointed to that post.